

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectively requested in view of the above amendments and these remarks. Claims 1, 3-9 and 12-19 are currently pending. Claims 2, 10-11 and 20-31 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action, the specification was objection to for containing certain informalities. Applicants have replaced the paragraphs that include the inaccuracies in accordance with the helpful suggestions made by the Examiner. Applicants also include a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement that provides form PTO-1449 for the cited references. Finally, Applicants provide a replacement sheet 2 for Figure 3 that includes reference number 304. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objections be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 12-19 were allowed. Applicants note with appreciation that the subject matter of these claims has been allowed.

Claims 1, 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0016628 A1 to Kadambi et al.; claims 20-22, 24-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,980,520 to Erimli; claims 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadambi in view PCT Patent Application Publication No. WO 00/11841 to Knight et al.; claims 23 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erimli in view of Knight and claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadambi in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0172205 to Tagore-Brage et al. Applicants note with appreciation that claims 2-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejections set forth in the present office action. However, desiring to expedite the issuance of a patent for the present invention and in view of the Examiner's indications of amendments that would confer allowance, the Applicants have sought to amend the claim 1 to incorporate claim 2 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Claims 2, 10-11 and 20-31 have been

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cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in a separate divisional application. No remaining grounds for rejection or objection being given, the claims in their present form are asserted to be patentable over the prior art of record.

As the Applicants have overcome all substantive rejections and objections given by the Examiner and have complied with all requests properly presented by the Examiner, the Applicants contend that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the pending claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to **50-2117**.

Respectfully submitted,
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